

# February 2017 Weather Digest

New Mexico

Texas

# February 2017 Weather Summary

**February turned out to be a windy month though not universally dry like one may think. Strong Pacific storms moved across the area on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. These systems produced mostly strong winds and blowing dust, though much of the area received some light rain along with the dust on 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**The Lordsburg Playa area seemed particularly sensitive to the winds in February, closing sections of Interstate 10 several times. Unfortunately, the wind/dust storm on the 23<sup>rd</sup> claimed the lives of two motorists near Lordsburg.**

**Rainfall was spotty throughout the month, with most of the area west of the Rio Grande Valley reporting above normal precipitation, while the area to the east was well below normal. After a couple of months of abundant snowfall over the mountains, February dried up with snowfall well below normal over the mountains.**

# February 2017 Weather Summary (cont'd)

**February continued the stretch of above normal temperatures. Of note, on February 10-11, as strong southwest flow developed ahead of the windstorm on the 13<sup>th</sup>, temperatures rose dramatically, with several records being set.**

**The outlook for March indicates more of the same; with good chances of above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.**

**Santa Teresa Feb 17**  
**Lenticular clouds**



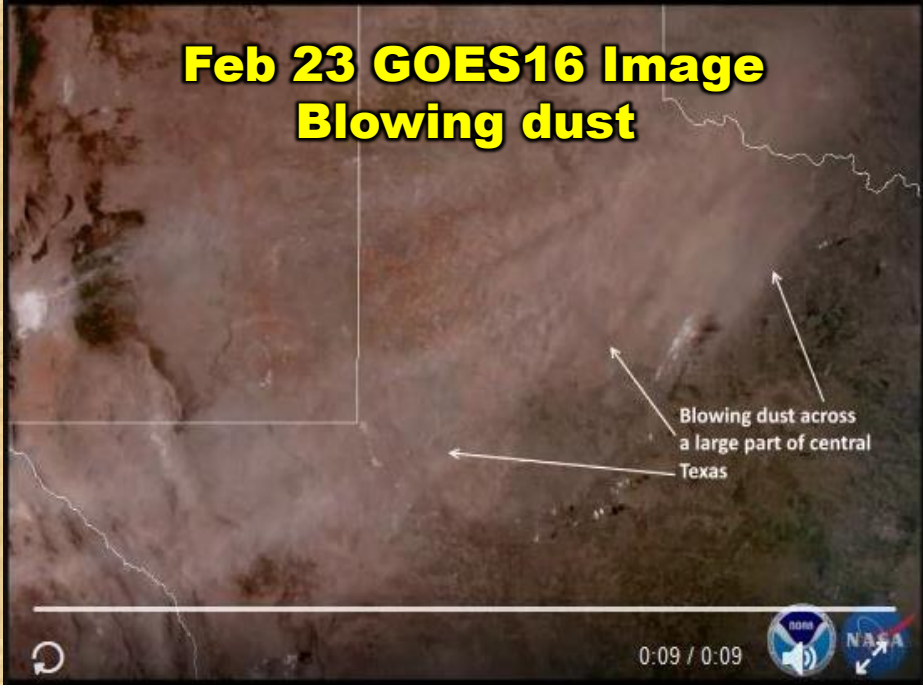
**Sierra Madres-Chihuahua**  
**Feb 19**



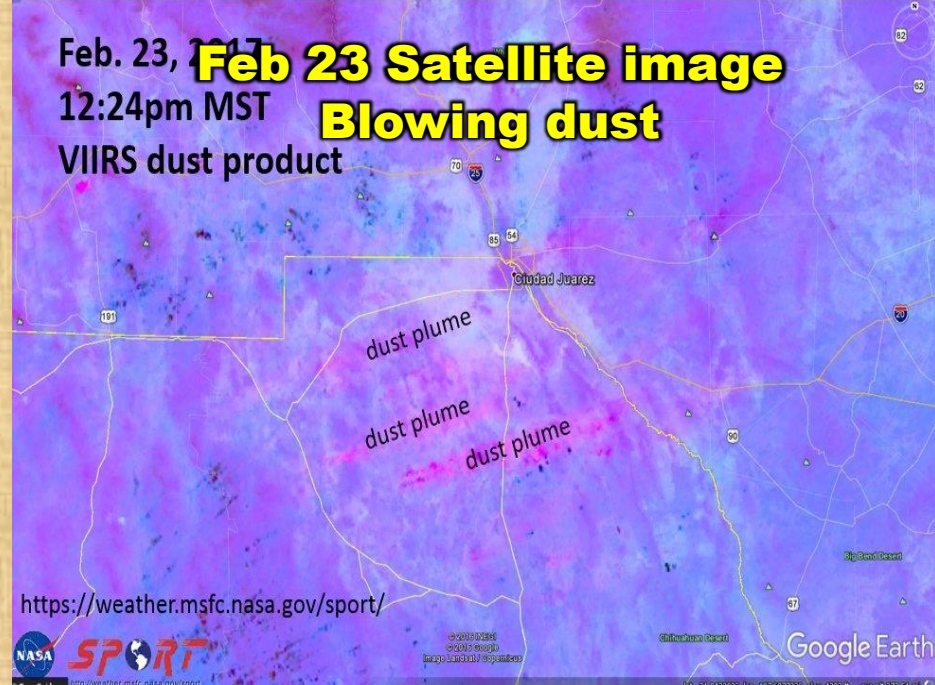
**Silver City Feb 19**  
**Snow shower**



# Feb 23 GOES16 Image Blowing dust



# Feb. 23, 2017 Feb 23 Satellite image 12:24pm MST Blowing dust VIIRS dust product



# Feb 23 Impact of strong winds



# **No Advisory in effect**

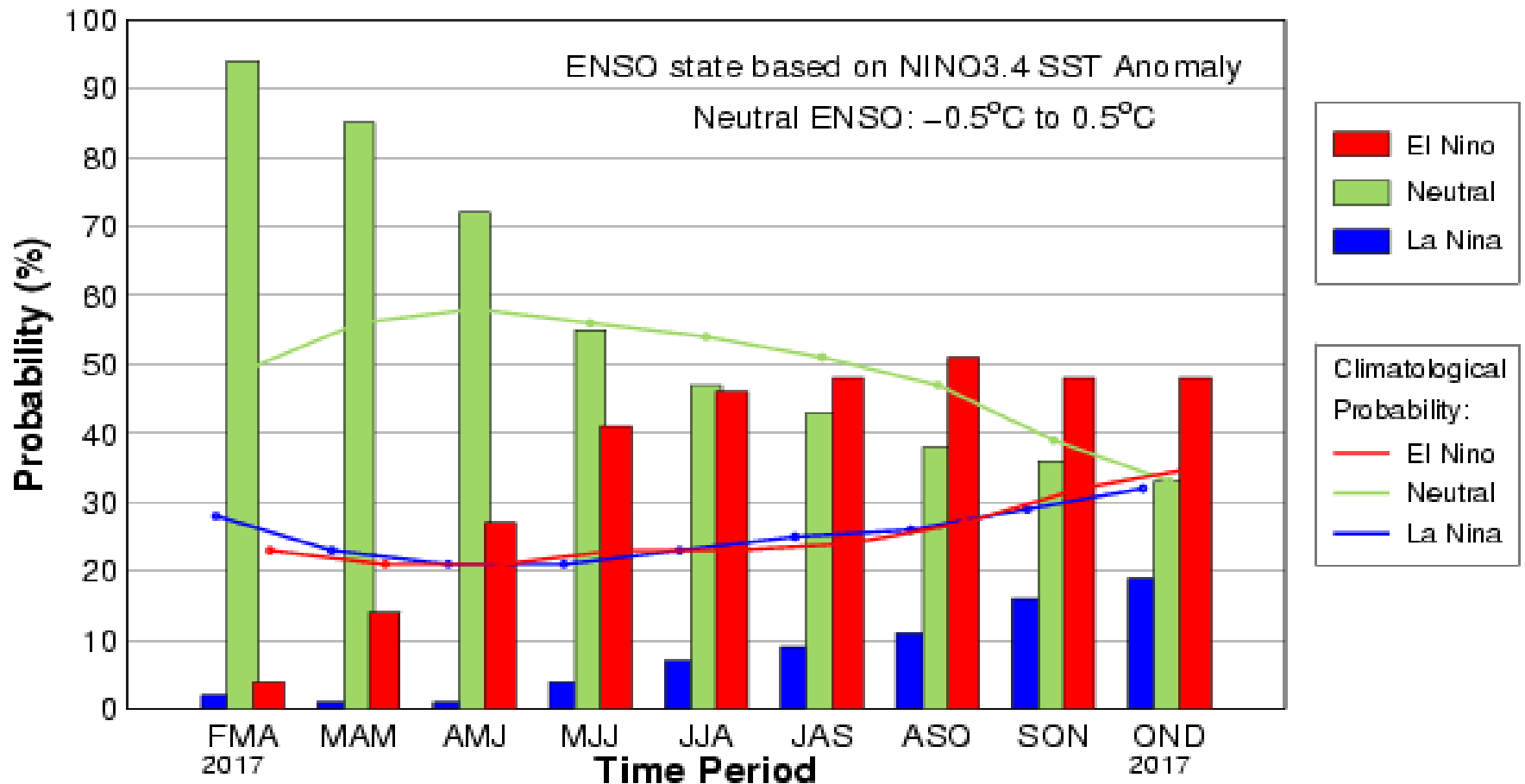
## **ENSO Alert System**

- **El Niño or La Niña Watch:** Issued when conditions are favorable for the development of El Niño or La Niña conditions in the next six months.
- **El Niño or La Niña Advisory:** Issued when El Niño or La Niña conditions are observed and expected to continue.

# ENSO Forecast from March into early winter of 2017

ENSO IS NOW IN A **NEUTRAL** PERIOD. SLIGHT FAVORING OF GOING TO EL NINO BY LATE SUMMER

Mid-Feb IRI/CPC Model-Based Probabilistic ENSO Forecast

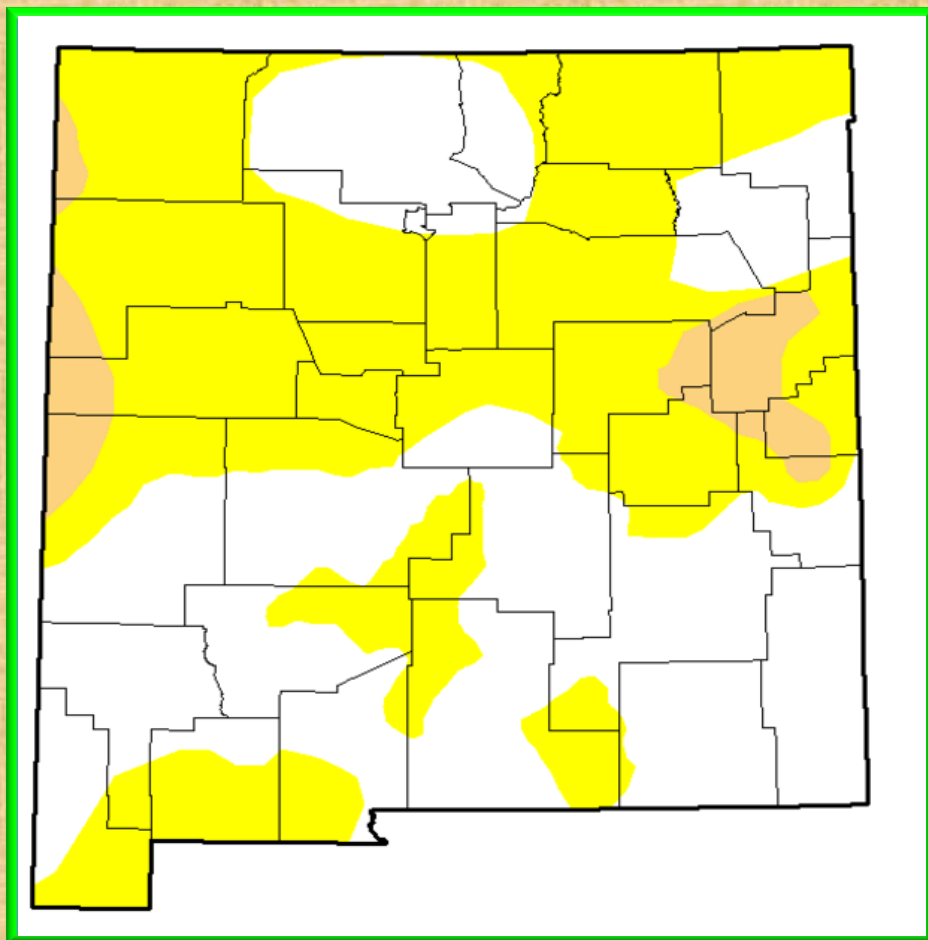
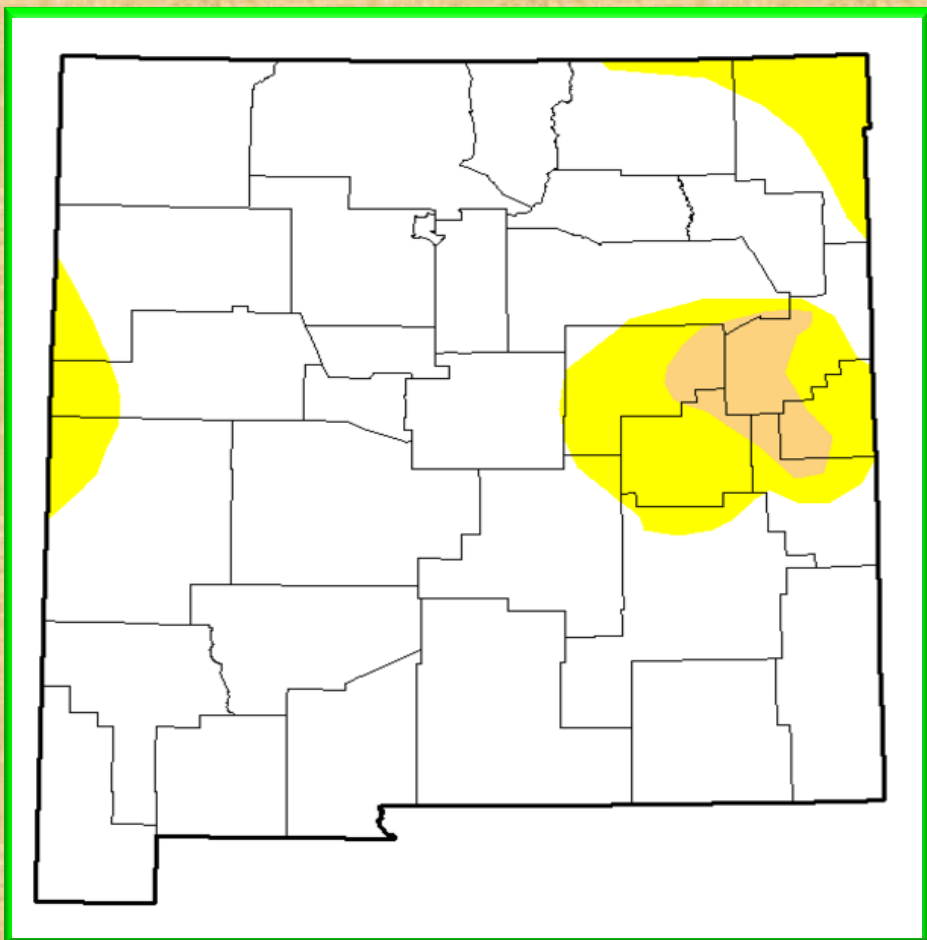


# Current drought conditions for New Mexico and 3 month change

- Abnormally Dry – D0
- Moderate Drought – D1
- Severe Drought – D2
- Extreme Drought – D3
- Exceptional – D4

**February 21, 2017**






**November 29, 2016**

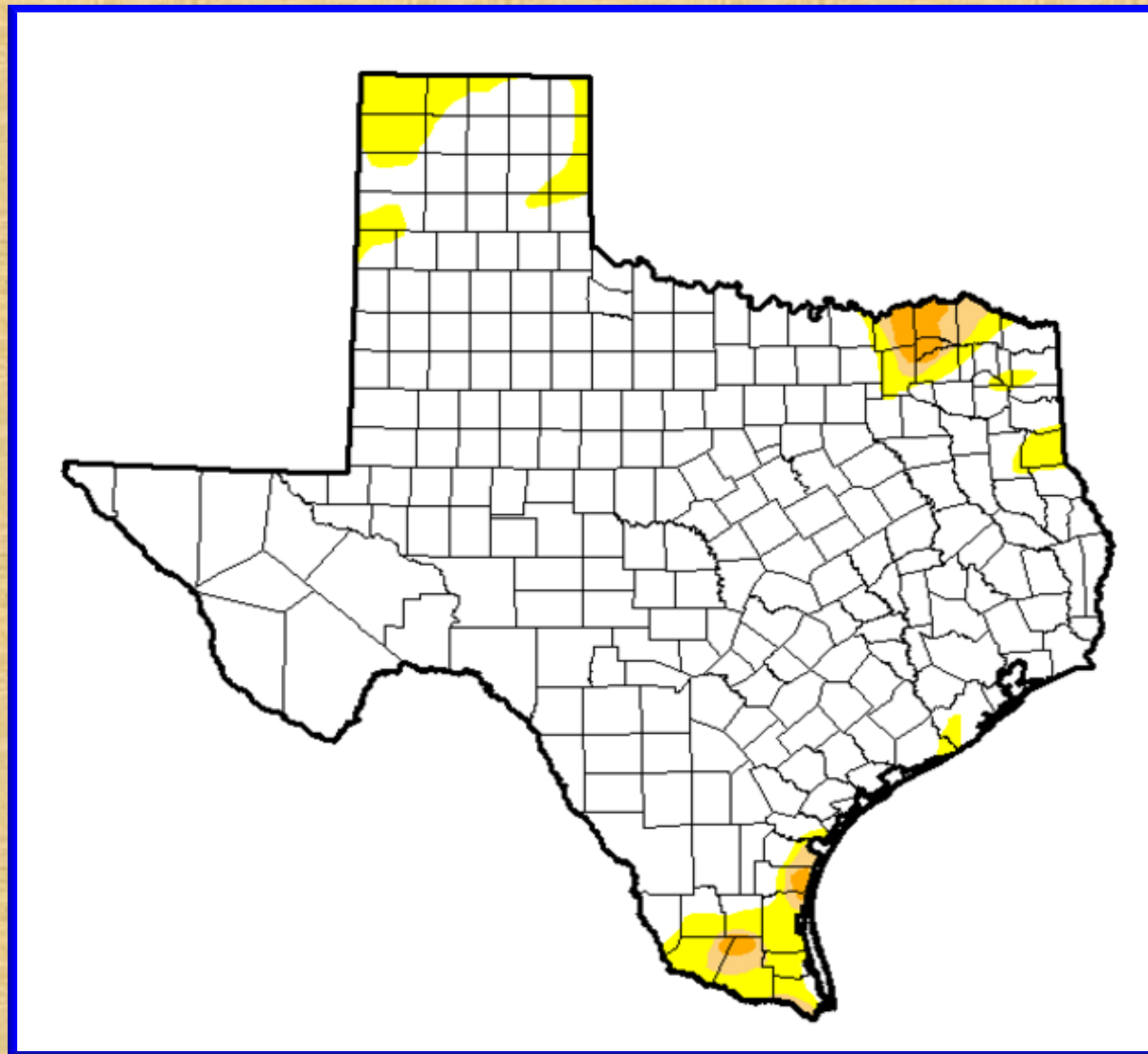




# Current drought conditions for Texas as of February 21, 2016

Intensity:

-  D0 - Abnormally Dry
-  D1 - Moderate Drought
-  D2 - Severe Drought
-  D3 - Extreme Drought
-  D4 - Exceptional Drought



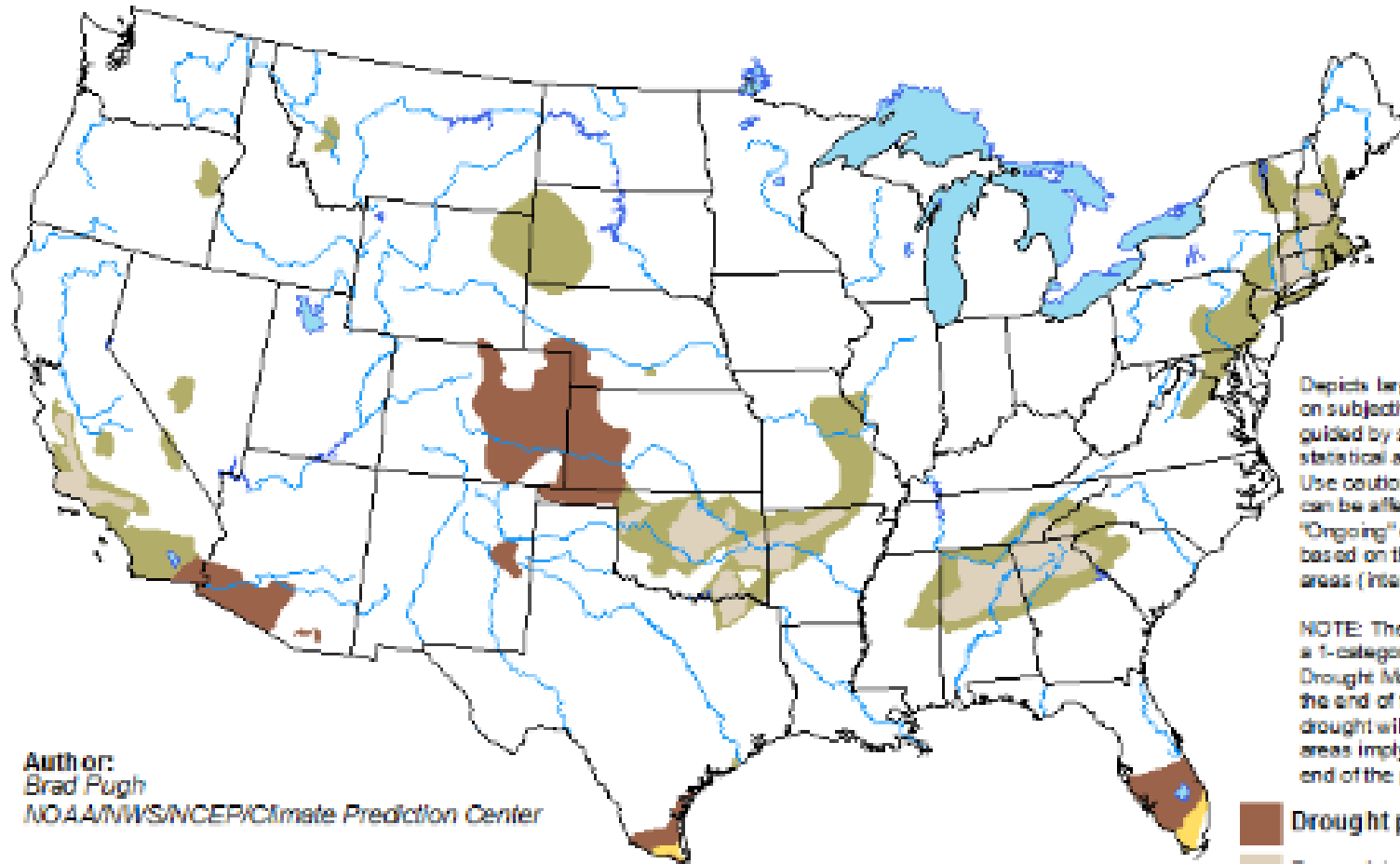
**Build your own custom slider maps here at:**

**<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/MapsandData/ComparisonSlider.aspx>**

# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period


Valid for February 16 - May 31, 2017  
Released February 16, 2017

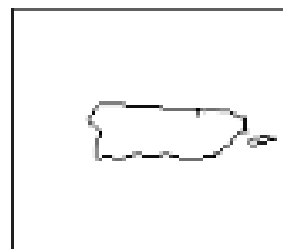
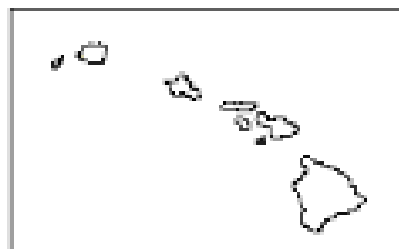
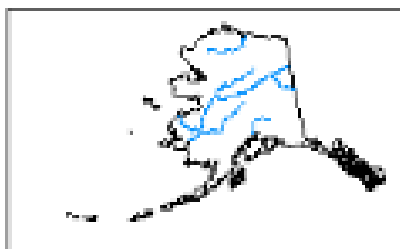


Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

Author:  
Brad Pugh  
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

-  Drought persists
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely

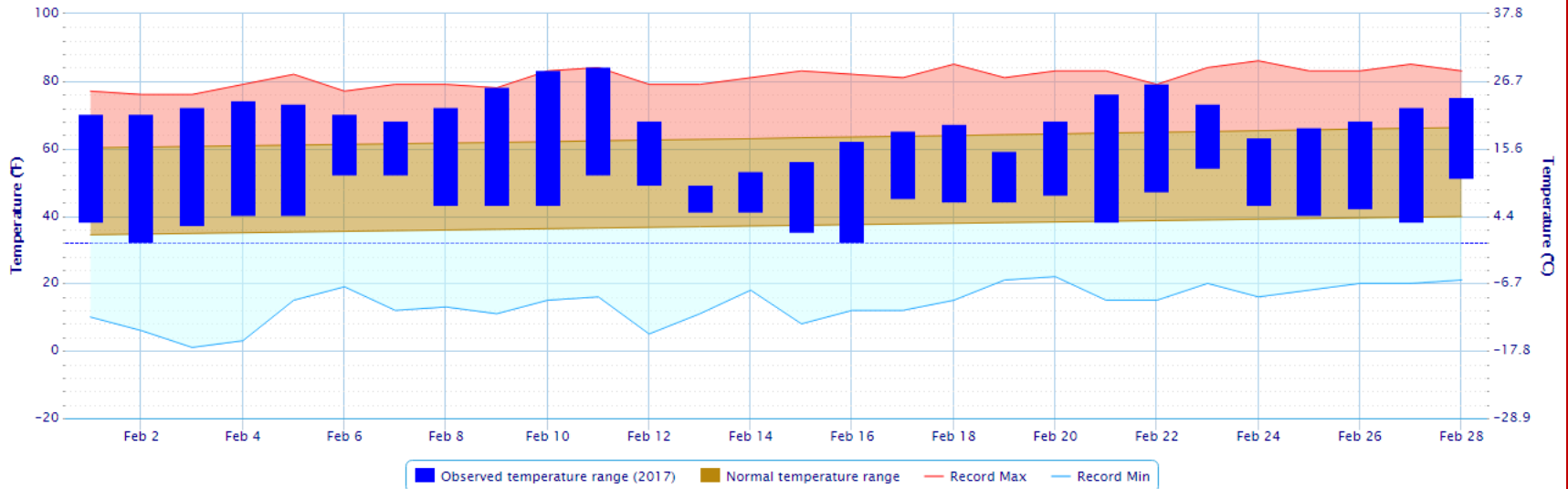


<http://go.usa.gov/3eZ73>

# Temperature and precipitation data for February 2017 in El Paso

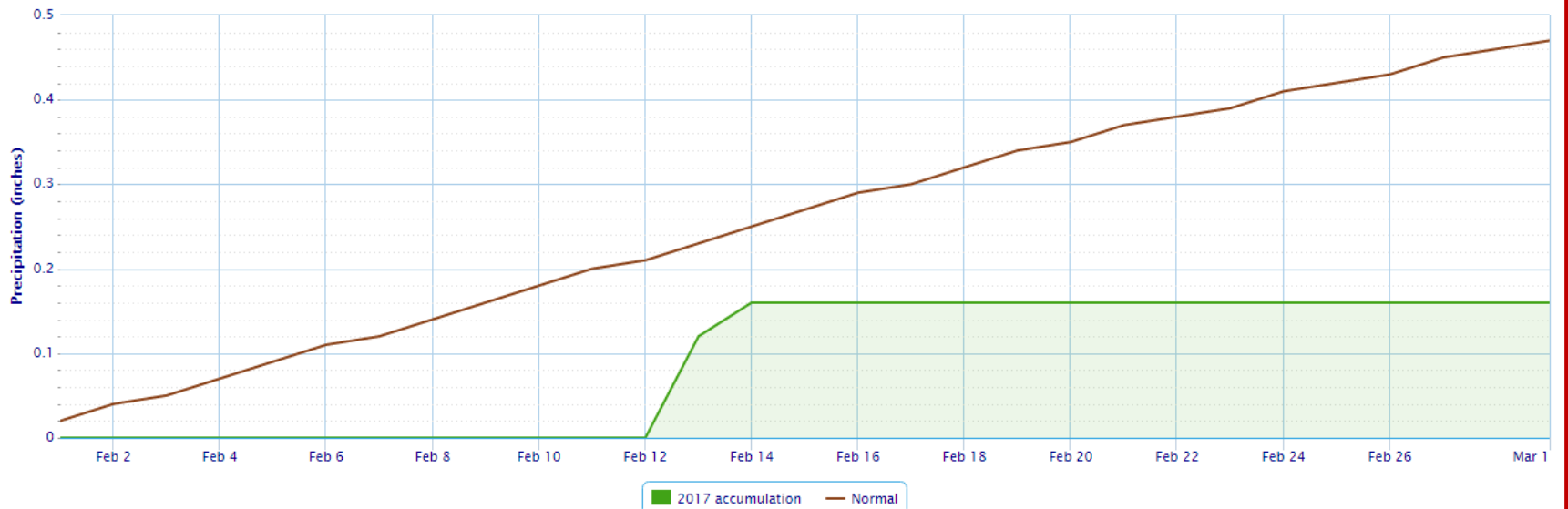
Daily Temperature Data – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

Period of Record – Max temperature: 1887-01-01 to 2017-03-01; Min temperature: 1879-01-01 to 2017-03-01. Normals period: 1981-2010. Click and drag to zoom chart.



Accumulated Precipitation – El Paso Area, TX (ThreadEx)

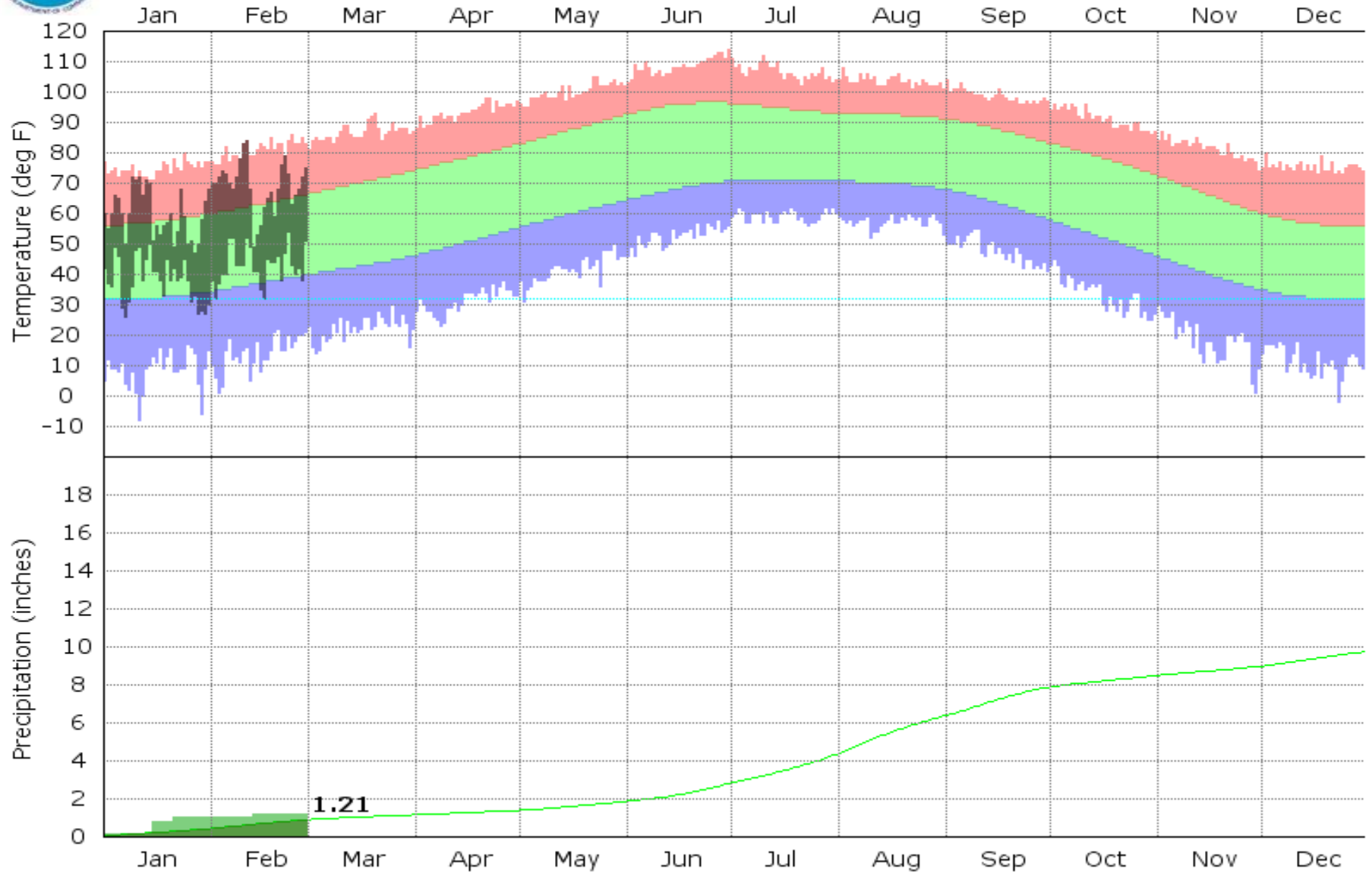
Click and drag to zoom to a shorter time interval; green/black diamonds represent subsequent/missing values



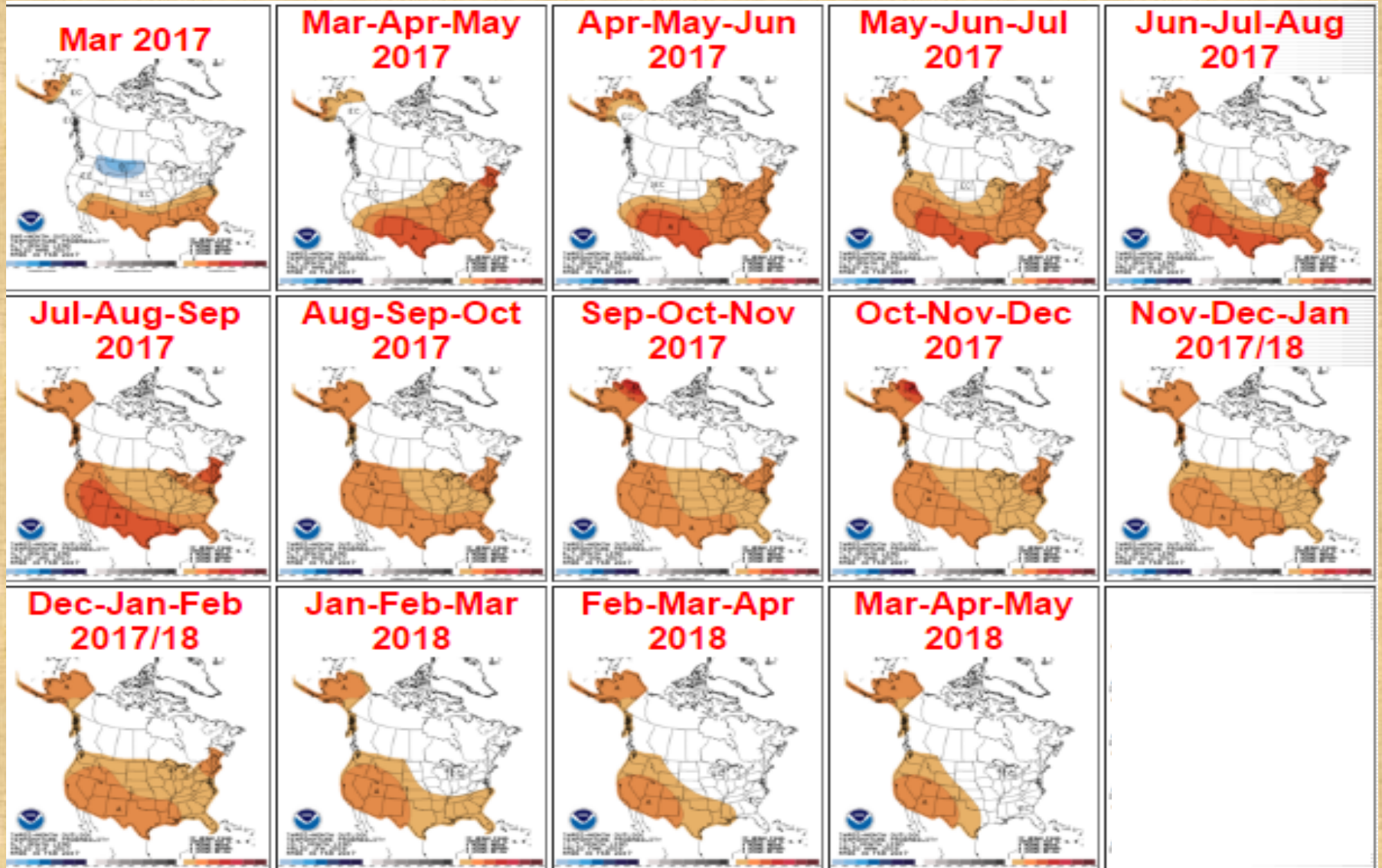
# 2017 year-to-date temperature and precipitation data El Paso



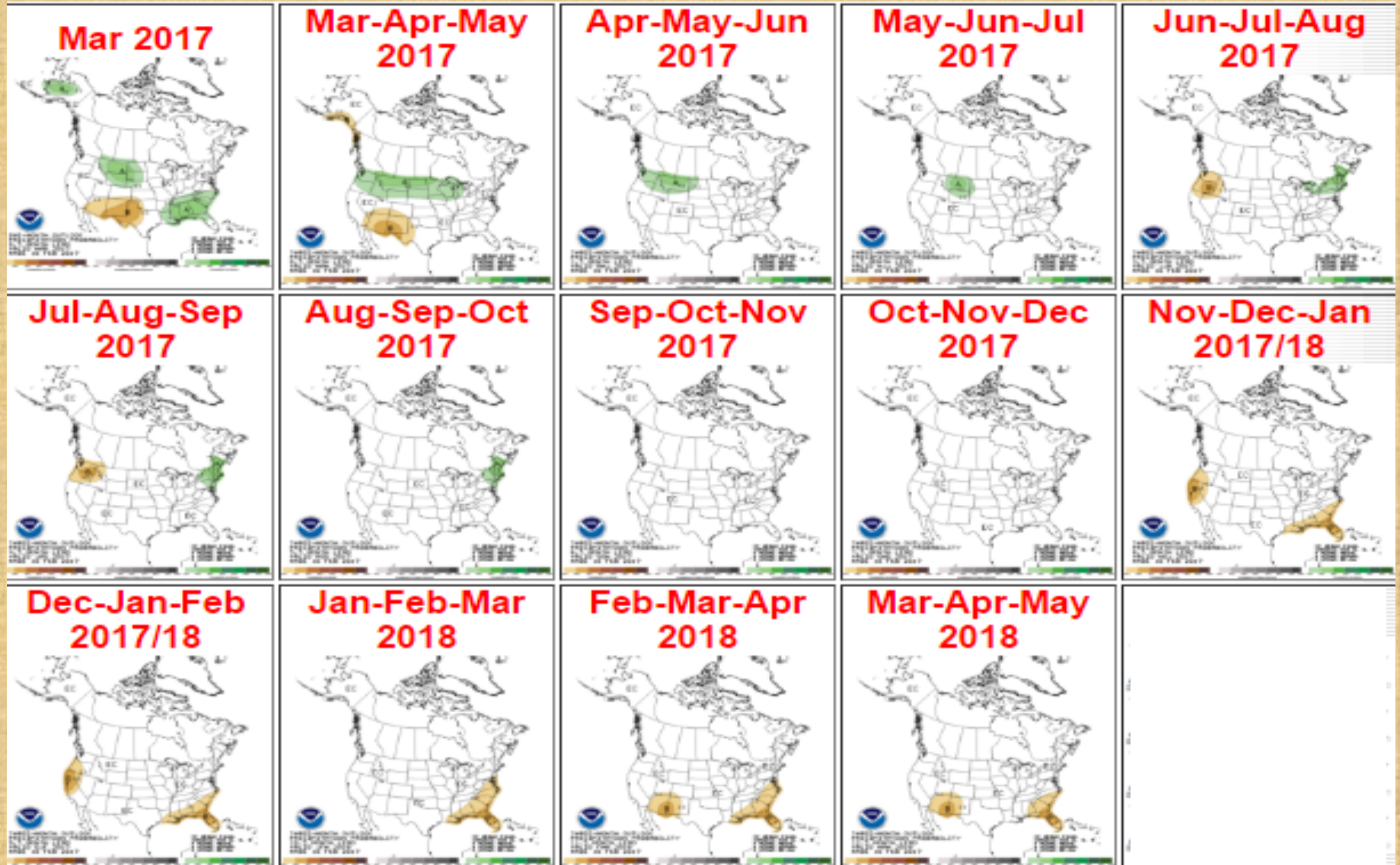
## El Paso TX - 2017



# Temperature Outlook Through May 2018



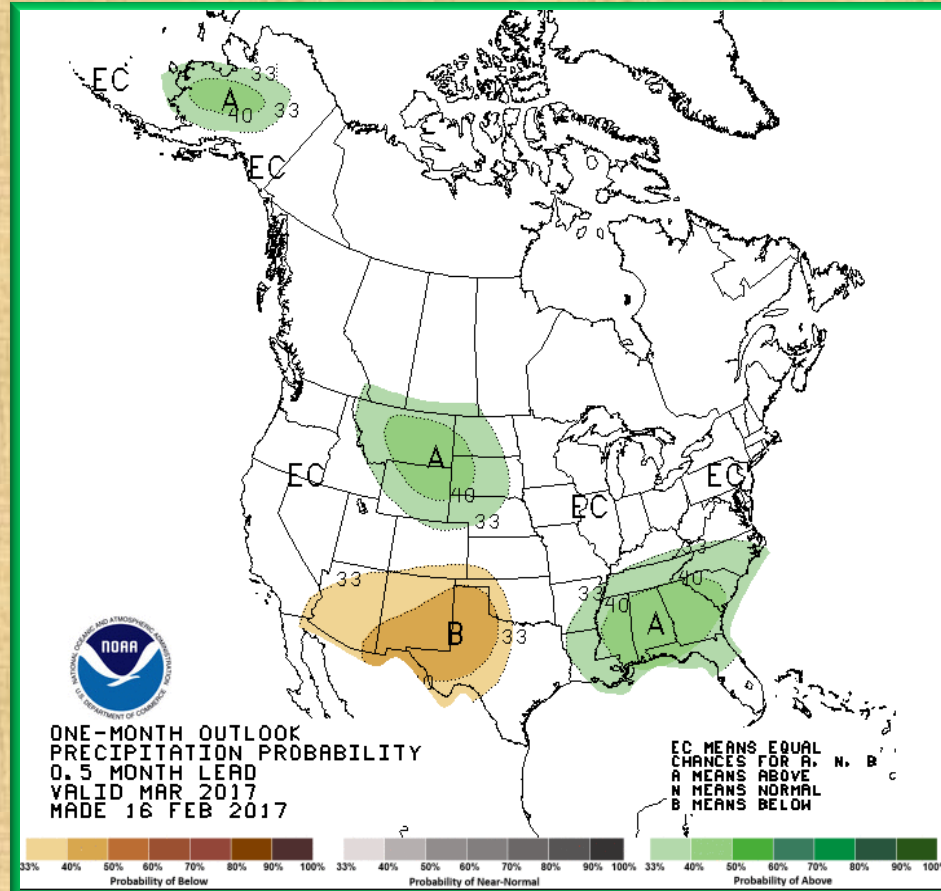
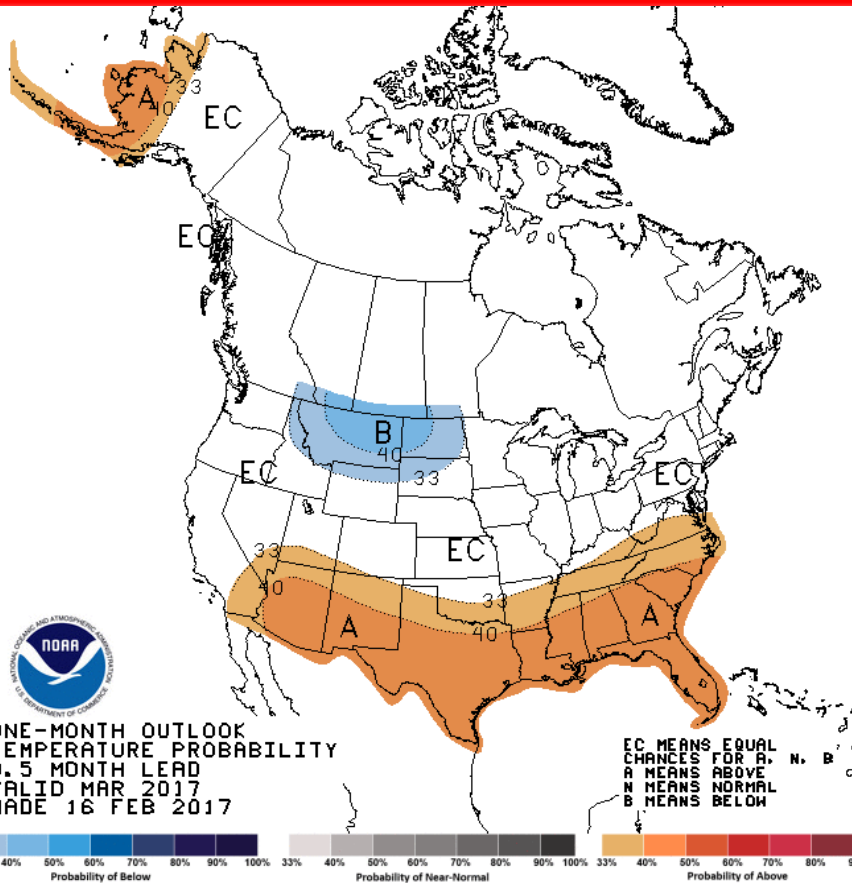
# Precipitation Outlook Through May 2018



# Temperature and precipitation outlook for March 2017

## Temperature

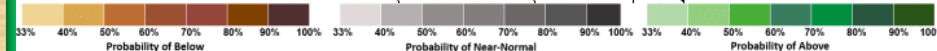
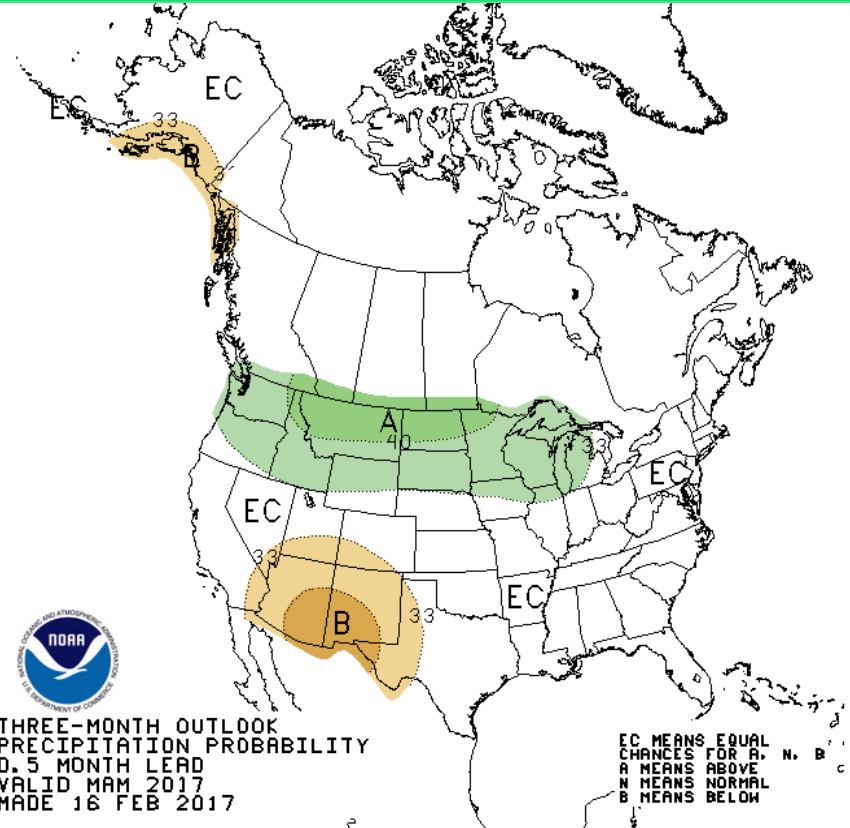
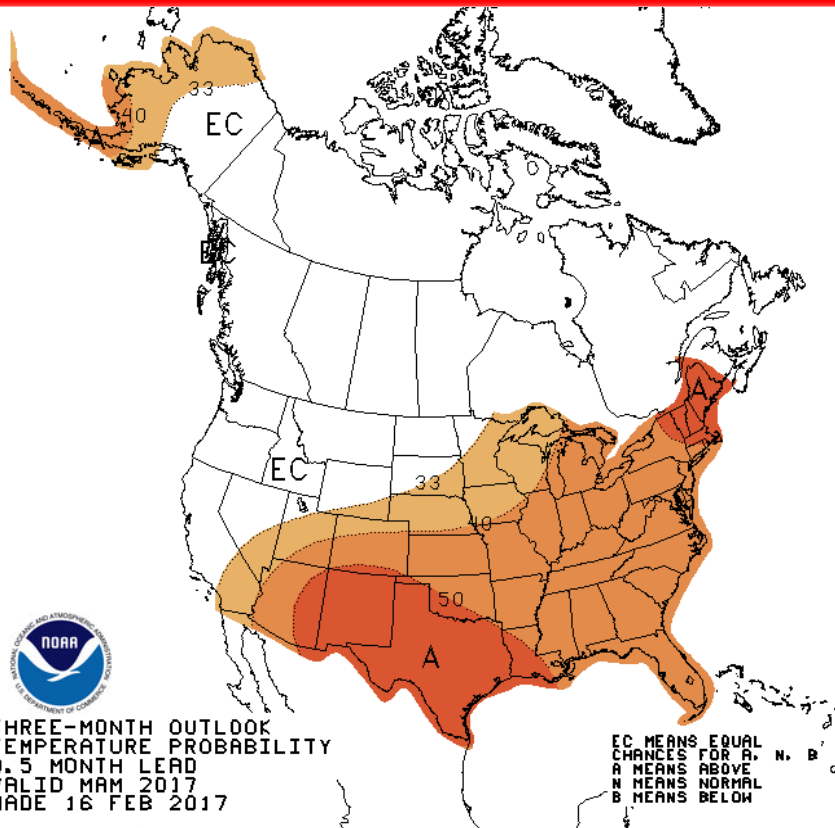
## Precipitation



# Temperature and precipitation outlook For Mar – May 2017

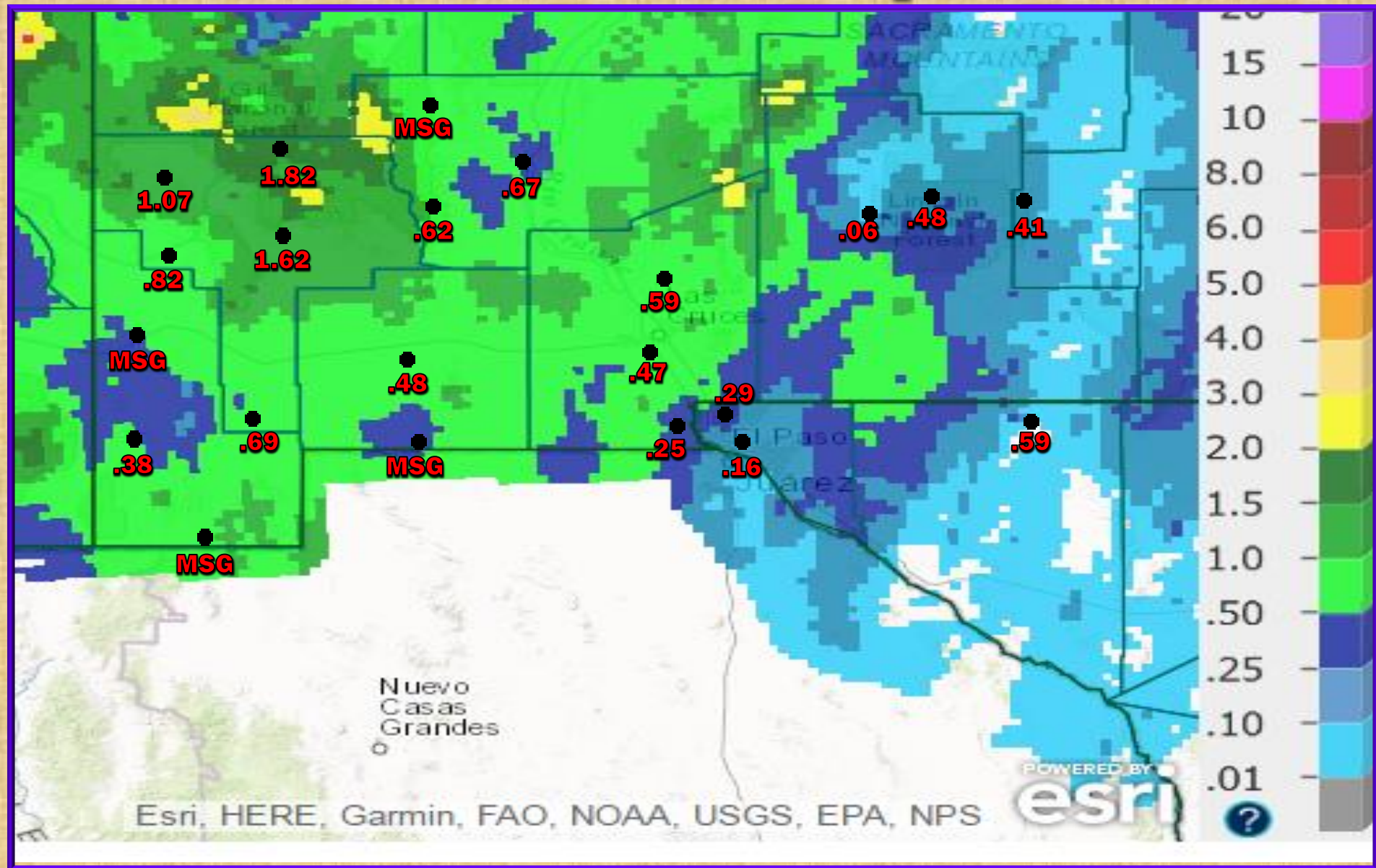
## Temperature

## Precipitation

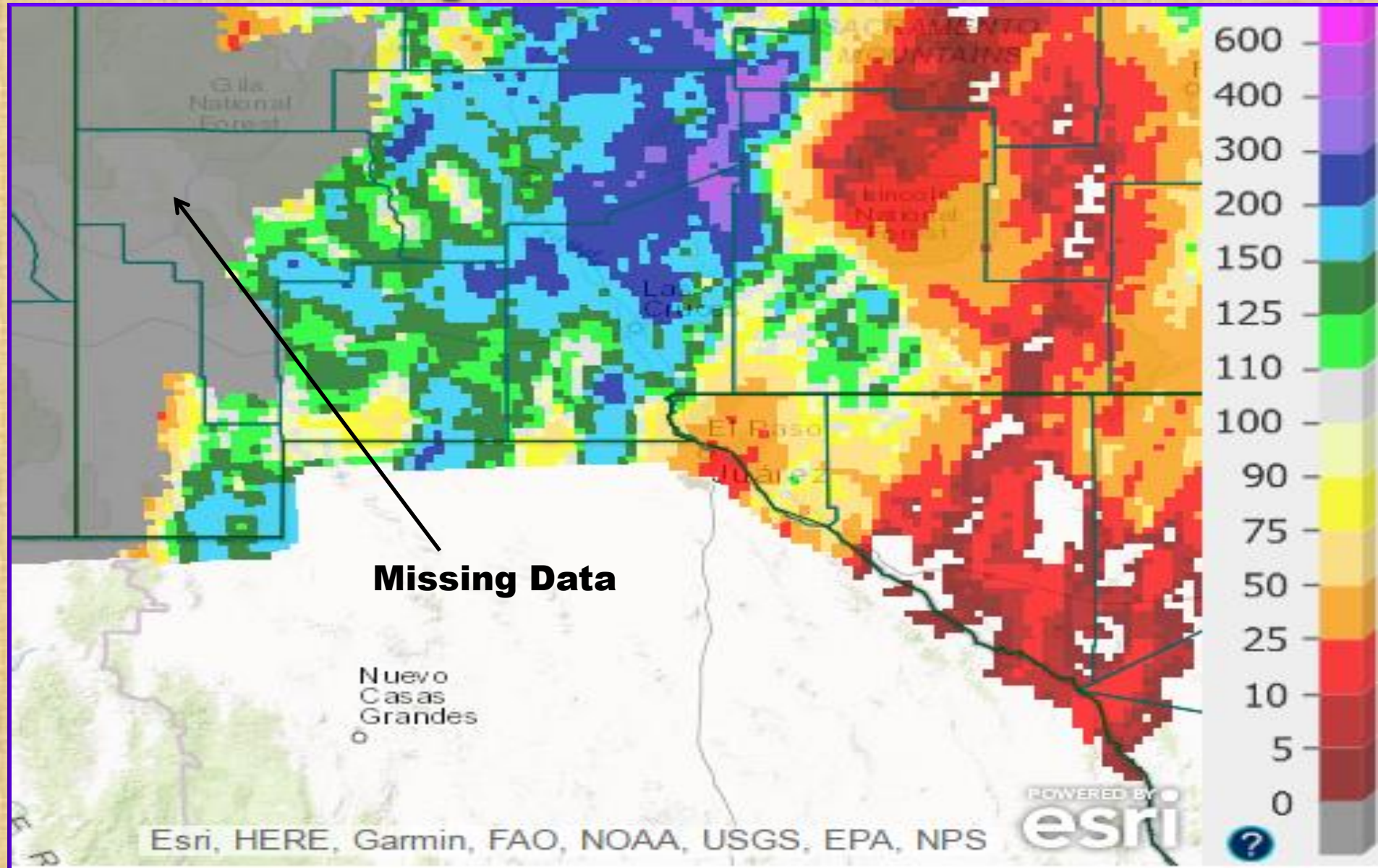




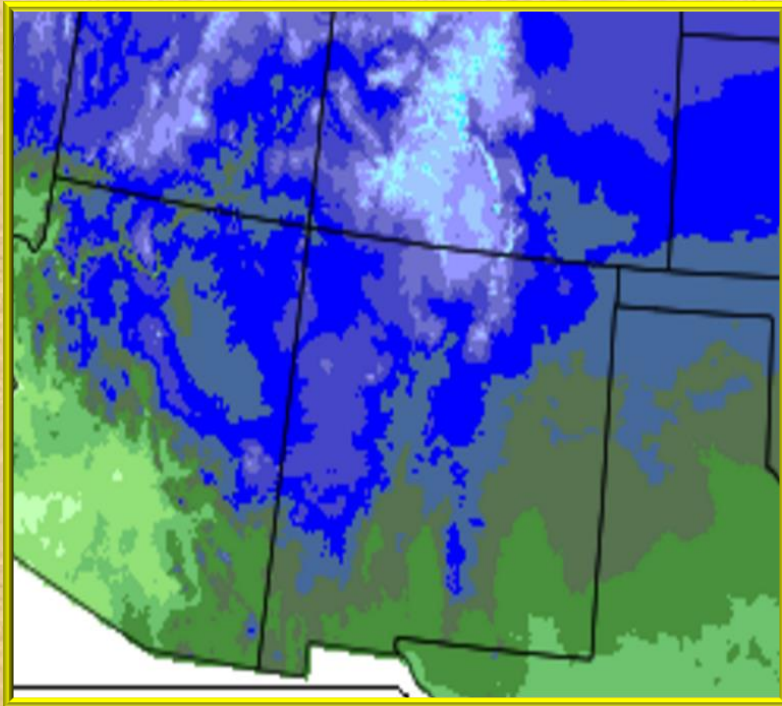
# February 2017 radar rainfall estimate with surface rainfall reports



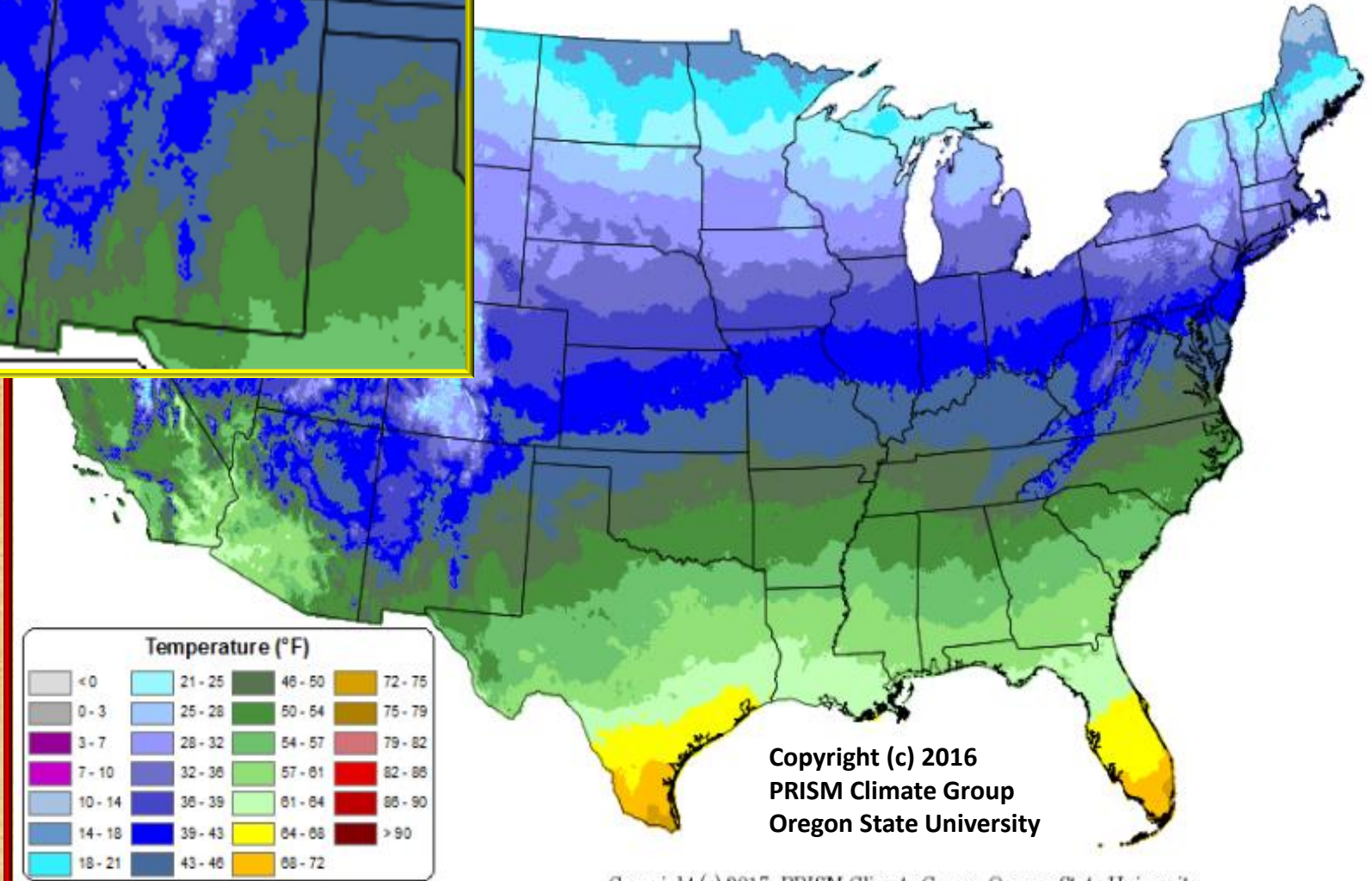
# February 2017 radar rainfall estimate percent of normal



# Average Daily Mean Temperature for February 2017



Average Daily Mean Temperature: February 2017  
Period ending 7 AM EST 28 Feb 2017  
(Map created 02 Mar 2017)



Temperature (°F)			
< 0	21 - 25	46 - 50	72 - 75
0 - 3	25 - 28	50 - 54	75 - 79
3 - 7	28 - 32	54 - 57	79 - 82
7 - 10	32 - 36	57 - 61	82 - 86
10 - 14	36 - 39	61 - 64	86 - 90
14 - 18	39 - 43	64 - 68	> 90
18 - 21	43 - 46	68 - 72	

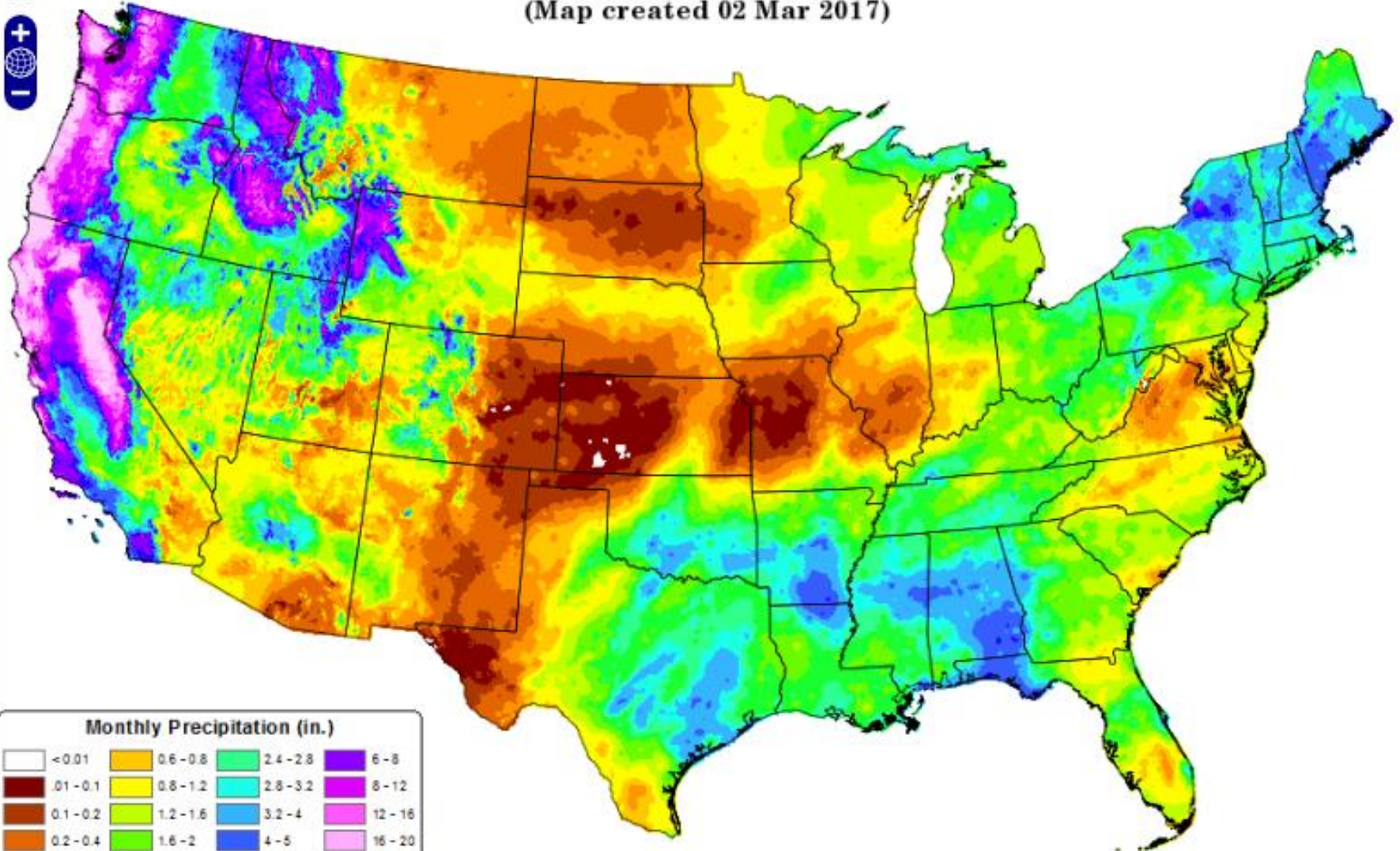
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PRISM Climate Group  
Oregon State University

# Total Precipitation for February 2017

## Total Precipitation: February 2017

Period ending 28 Feb 2017

(Map created 02 Mar 2017)



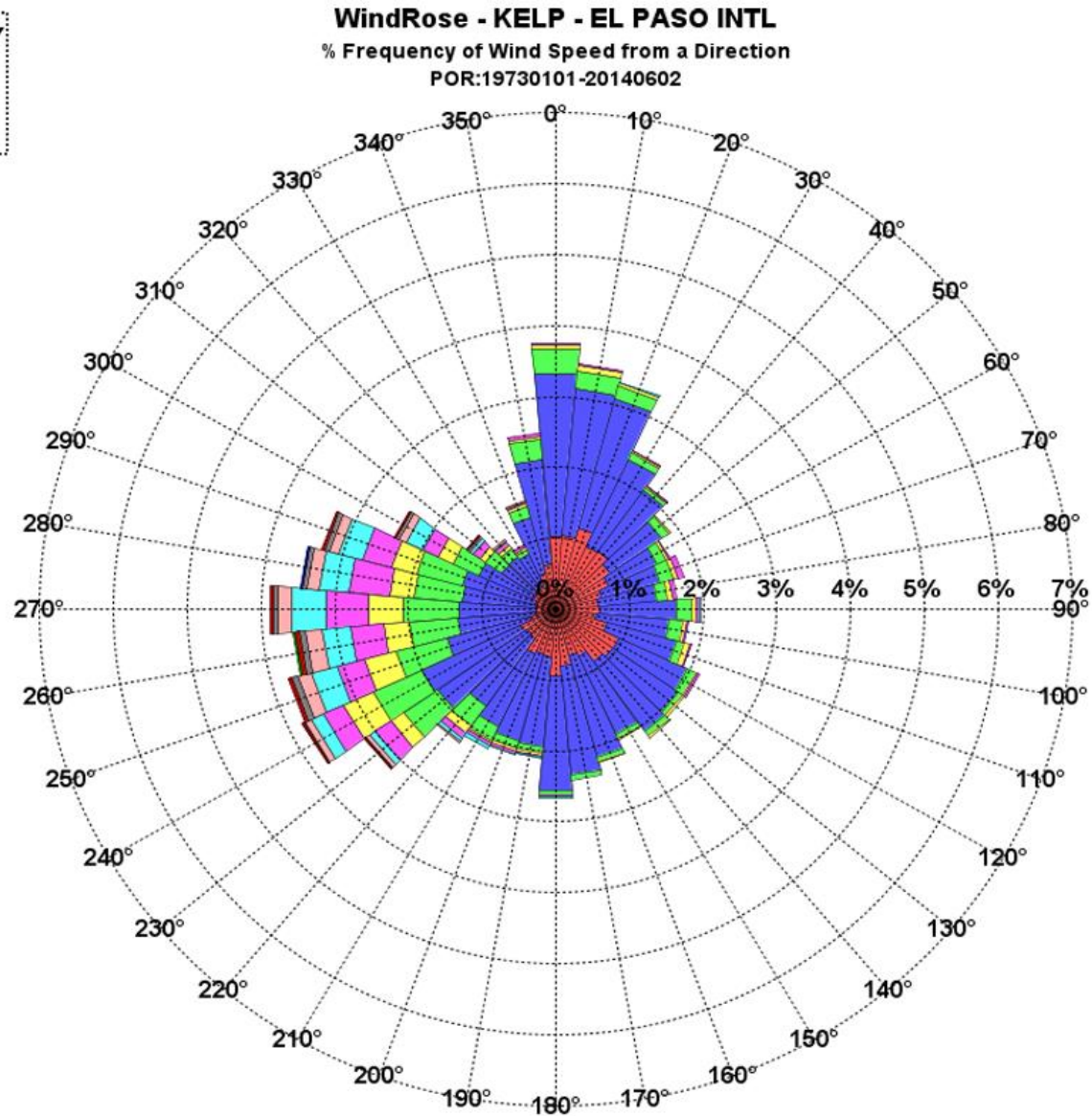
# Special Features

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/epz/?n=elpwindrosedata>

Month: FEBRUARY

Calm: 10.51%

Variable: 1.83%



# Selected weather reports February 2017

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location (County)</b>	<b>Event</b>
2/07/2017 415 AM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	57 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/07/2017 339 AM	EL PASO AIRPORT-EL PASO	56 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/07/2017 550 AM	EI PASO 6NE-EL PASO	52 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/07/2017 237 AM	OROGRANDE 28NE-OTERO	48 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/07/2017 345 AM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	47 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 526 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	68 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 815 AM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	66 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 502 AM	TALAVERA 2SE-DONA ANA	65 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 835 AM	TULAROSA 9W-OTERO	58 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 837 AM	OROGRANDE 28NE-OTERO	58 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 654 PM	SUNSPOT 1S-OTERO	54 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 1003 PM	EL PASO 6NW-EL PASO	53 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 500 PM	SANTA TERESA 5SW-DONA ANA	52 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 1009 PM	ROAD FORKS 6NE-HIDALGO	50 MPH PEAK WIND GUST
2/12/2017 600 PM	SUNLAND PARK-DONA ANA	48 MPH PEAK WIND GUST

# Selected weather reports February 2017

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location (County)</b>	<b>Event</b>
2/12/2017 500 PM	FAYWOOD-GRANT	47 MPH PEAK WIND
2/14/2017 843 AM	CLOUDCROFT 2SW-OTERO	2.4 INCHES SNOW
2/23/2017 125 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	81 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 235 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	69 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 152 PM	EL PASO AIRPORT-EL PASO	58 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 1159 AM	EL PASO 5NE-EL PASO	56 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 126 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	55 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 1119 AM	RODEO 3NE-HIDALGO	54 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 521 AM	CLOUDCROFT-OTERO	52 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 149 PM	DELL CITY 1N-HUDSPETH	51 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 139 PM	SUNSPOT 1S-OTERO	50 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 1150 AM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	49 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 945 AM	TULAROSA 19NW-OTERO	49 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 309 PM	MAYHILL 3NW-OTERO	48 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 400 PM	CHAPARRAL 2E-OTERO	47 MPH PEAK WIND

# Selected weather reports February 2017

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location (County)</b>	<b>Event</b>
2/23/2017 200 PM	SUNLAND PARK-DONA ANA	47 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 230 PM	DEMING-LUNA	47 MPH PEAK WIND
2/23/2017 255 PM	ALAMOGORDO AIRPORT-OTERO	45 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 215 PM	SAN AUGUSTIN PASS-DONA ANA	94 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 255 PM	WSMR MAIN POST-DONA ANA	74 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 307 PM	SIERRA BLANCA 1SE-HUDSPETH	71 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1259 PM	EL PASO 5NE-EL PASO	69 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1144 AM	SUNSPOT 1S-OTERO	63 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 924 AM	ROAD FORKS 6NE-HIDALGO	62 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1100 AM	TALAVERA 2SE-DONA ANA	60 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 115 PM	LAS CRUCES AIRPORT-DONA ANA	59 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1135 AM	SANTA TERESA 5NW-DONA ANA	58 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 137 PM	EL PASO AIRPORT-DONA ANA	56 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 139 PM	TULAROSA 4SE-OTERO	55 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1059 AM	ORGAN-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND



# Selected weather reports February 2017

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Location (County)</b>	<b>Event</b>
2/28/2017 326 PM	DRIPPING SPRINGS-DONA ANA	54 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1125 AM	OROGRANDE 4NW-OTERO	53 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 114 PM	CLOUDCROFT-OTERO	52 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1157 AM	DEMING-LUNA	51 MPH PEAK WIND
2/28/2017 1200 PM	SUNLAND PARK-DONA ANA	51 MPH PEAK WIND



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Photo Credit: John Fausett

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**Heavy Rain and Flash Flooding Possible Over Parts of the Eastern United States**  
 Heavy rainfall is expected over portions of the eastern United States through Thursday. Flooding and flash flooding will be possible in some areas. Click the "Read More" link for excessive rainfall forecasts from the Weather Prediction Center. [Read More >](#)

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El Paso, TX  
 Weather Forecast Office

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Local forecast by "City, St" or ZIP code  
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**Heavy rain expected across the Mid-Atlantic region and central Appalachians.**  
 Heavy rainfall is possible over portions of the eastern United States today, with the highest risk across the Mid-Atlantic and central Appalachians. Click the "Read More" link for excessive rainfall forecasts from the Weather Prediction Center. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are possible over portions of the Southwest and southern Rockies through Friday. [Read More >](#)

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El Paso, TX  
 Weather Forecast Office

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Southern New Mexico and Far West Texas has a variety of weather from month to month. Conditions can range from extreme drought, to heavy flooding rains, from record breaking heat to bone chilling cold. Below you will find past weather highlights from the area that the NWS office in Santa Teresa NM covers. This area includes the following counties in New Mexico: Hudspeth, Grant, Luna, Sierra, Doña Ana and Otero and the following counties in Texas: El Paso and Hudspeth.



**Don't Forget-Current and past issues of our Weather Digest are available on our website at <http://www.weather.gov/epz/>**

**Just click on "Local Programs>Weather Digest", then choose which month's Digest to view. Also, though discontinued, don't forget to check out our back issues of Southwest Weather Bulletin.**

WEATHER DIGESTS AND BULLETINS	
Weather Digest	Southwest Weather Bulletins
<a href="#">January</a>	2005 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">February</a>	2006 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">March</a>	2007 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">April</a>	2008 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">May</a>	2009 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">June</a>	2010 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">July</a>	2011 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">August</a>	2012 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">September</a>	2013 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">October</a>	2014 <a href="#">Spring</a> <a href="#">Fall</a>
<a href="#">November</a>	
<a href="#">December</a>	